EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ralph Fischer, representative for the applicants on 6/18/2009.

In the Claims:

Claim 18 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the client address information is stored in at least one database.—

Claim 19 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the signaling information is rejected or not answered within a time period by the sought client; and wherein the broadcasted message includes an identifier for the sought client, and wherein the client address information in the response message is for a call diversion client.—

Claim 20 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the signaling information is sent in a diversion message.—

Claim 21 reads:

--The method according to claim 20, wherein the response message is comprised of a client address information item.—

Claim 22 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the searching client belongs to a call transfer group, and the method further comprising transferring the waiting communication link to the searching client using the stored client address information that describes clients in the call transfer group.—

Claim 23 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the communication link is formed from transferring the waiting communication link to the searching client via the waiting destination client.—

Claim 24 reads:

--The method according to claim 23, wherein the sought client is a client in a call transfer group, wherein the client address information in the response message is for the sought client, and wherein the communication link is set up between the searching client and the sought client.—

Claim 25 reads:

--The method according to claim 18, wherein the stored client address information describe clients in a call transfer group, wherein the broadcast message is transmitted to the call transfer group clients described in the stored client address information, and wherein the clients involved in the communication link are in a free operating state at a start of the sending of signaling information.—

Claim 26 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the stored client address information describe clients in a group.—

Claim 27 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the communication network is a directly communicating communication network.—

Claim 28 reads:

--The method according to claim 27, wherein the waiting destination descriptor is sent to the searching client.—

Claim 29 reads:

--The method according to claim 27, wherein the sending of signaling information is effected by the sending of the response message to the searching client.—

Claim 30 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the client address information in the response message is stored by the searching client in a database, and wherein the database is accessed to set up the communication link.—

Claim 31 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the broadcast message comprises at least one filter criterion for selecting particular clients, and wherein the waiting destination client meets the at least one filter criterion.—

Claim 32 reads:

--The method according to claim 33 wherein the broadcast message comprises at least on filter criterion for selecting particular clients, and wherein the waiting destination client has a property that meets the at least on filter criterion.—

Claim 33 reads:

--A method for setting up a communication link between a plurality of clients in a communication network, comprising: storing client address information in a distributed form for the plurality of clients; establishing a waiting communication link between a sought client and a waiting destination client; the waiting, destination client sending a waiting destination descriptor; transmitting a broadcast request message from a searching client; the waiting destination client sending a response message comprising a client address information to the searching client; and the waiting destination client sending signaling information configured for setting up the communication link between the searching client and the sought client.—

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 18-33 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art made of record fails to anticipate or render obvious the following recited feature: receiving at a searching client a waiting destination descriptor from a waiting destination client prior to a searching client sending a broadcast message

to clients belonging to a call transfer group of a directly communicating communication network.

4. The prior art made of record not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

US Patent Application Publication 2003/0095546 A1 to Sakano et al. discloses a method for searching a destination terminal in an IP network to set up a call connection, but is silent on call diversion clients and receiving response messages.

US Patent 6,144,671 to Perinpanathan et al. discloses a method to re-direct calls in a packet-based communications network wherein a destination client sends a call diversion message (response) to a searching client, but is silent on sending this message prior to the searching client sending a broadcast message to members or the call transfer group.

US Patent 6,463,146 B1 to Hartley et al. discloses a call waiting service, but is also silent on sending a waiting destination descriptor prior to the searching client sending a broadcast message.

US Patent 6,269,099 B1 to Borella et al. discloses a method for peer network discovery, but is also silent on sending a waiting destination descriptor prior to the searching client sending a broadcast message.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BENJAMIN ELLIOTT whose telephone number is (571)270-7163. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Aung Moe can be reached on (571)272-7314. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aung S. Moe/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2416

/B. E./
Examiner, Art Unit 2416